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who might be permitted to dispose of them at the Allams on payment of *mêlvaram* to the Sirkar.

Dewan's reply.—The resuscitation of the Kolachel Allam has been already ordered. In regard to the sale of salt, some arrangement will be made for the future.

71. *Appointment of managers for mosques.*

Mr. Oosan Pillai Kulamytheen Pillai of Eraniel (Member, Nominated) said that, owing to differences and dissensions, their mosques were being mismanaged and requested that, wherever Mahomedans lived in large numbers, Government might be pleased to appoint proper persons from among the leading residents as managers and entrust them with the duty of managing the affairs of the local mosques.

Dewan.—You would propose then that the Sirkar should take up this duty.

Member.—Yes. I would request the Sirkar to select from among Mahomedans proper persons as managers.

Dewan.—In matters connected with religion, is it not inexpedient for the Sirkar to interfere?

Member.—This is not a purely religious matter. Besides, such things are being done by Government in respect of, for instance, Devaswoms.

Dewan's reply.—If the institutions concerned are in receipt of any grant from Government, then there would be some justification for them to step in and do the needful. However, think over the matter and state definitely in what way you would ask Government to help you in this matter.

The same member also represented—

72. *Administering oath to Mahomedans.*

(1) That it was viewed as objectionable that non-Mahomedans should handle the Koran in Courts and administer oath to Mahomedans: and

73. *Exemption of Mahomedans from attendance in Courts on Fridays.*

(2) That no case in which Mahomedans have to appear as parties or witnesses should be heard on Friday that being a religious day for them.

Dewan's reply.—A circular has been issued by the High Court in regard to the first point. In cases where the order is not followed, the fact may be brought to the notice of the High Court. The question of attendance in Courts on Fridays will be considered.

74. *Retail sale of salt.*

Mr. T. Kumara Pillai (Member, Taluk Association, Padmanabhapuram) said that the people were being put to loss on account of the recent order of Government stopping the retail sale of salt in Bankshalls. The people had

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to buy the small quantities they required only from merchants who sold at high prices. He requested that the order might be modified.

Dewan's reply.—The change was introduced for the good of the people. The Sirkar has no objection to the old practice of selling salt by fractions of a maund being revived if that would be advantageous to the people. In fact orders have already been issued to that effect.

75. *Abolition of cocoanut oil tax.*

Mr. Avirah Varki Tharakan (Member, Shertallay Taluk) requested that the cocoanut oil tax might be abolished as the mode of levy of the tax and the commutation rates at which it was being realized pressed hard on the people. The tax was peculiar to the Shertallay Taluk and was not levied in other Taluks.

Dewan's reply.—The tax will be abolished at the Settlement.

76. *Subjection of Kudipullithanathu to Ottivilakkom.*

Mr. Krishnan Karthavu (Member, Shertallay Taluk) represented that the people felt it a grievance that *Kudipullithanathu*, *Adimaper* and other tenures should be subjected to the process of *Ottivilakkom* at the present Settlement. The lands were entered in the Ayacut in the names of the original alienors as "Jenmom" and no *ottivilakkam* had taken place in cases of alienation in the past.

Dewan's reply.—The matter will be considered in the Settlement Department.

77. *Loans of money by Government.*

The same member requested—

that the Sirkar might grant to the people, on the security of immovable property, loans of money at low interest and thus aid them in improving their agricultural operations, manufactures and industries.

Dewan's reply.—Will be considered.

78. *Amendment of Jenmi and Kudiyan Regulation.*

Mr. Chakko Thommi (Member, Ettumanur Taluk) said that the Jenmi and Kudiyan Regulation stood in urgent need of amendment in regard to the realization of renewal fees by the Jenmis. The fees were regulated by the amount of the *kanom* and not by the nature and condition of the holding.

Dewan's reply.—If it is desired that the Regulation should be amended, a formal proposal may be made for the consideration of the Legislative Council.

The member further requested—

79. *Reduction of tax on punja lands left fallow.*

that the tax on punja lands left fallow in alternate years might be levied at fifty per cent. of the assessment. Now the full amount is levied when the land is cultivated and remitted when left fallow.

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